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*Aden.*—During the period from February 19 to March 3 there were registered 443 cases of plague and 402 deaths. During the week ended February 18, according to a supplementary report, there occurred in Aden 371 plague cases, with 339 deaths.

*British South Africa.*—In Durban, during the period from January 29 to February 11, there were registered 4 fresh cases of plague and 4 deaths.

### *Death rate of Berlin and other cities.*

The death rate of Berlin for the week ended March 4 was lower than that of the preceding week, amounting, calculated on the year, to 15.8 per thousand of the population, this figure being the lowest recorded at any time during the present year, although higher than the rate for the same week of last year, in which it amounted to only 14.7 per thousand. Of the large German towns and cities almost two-thirds showed less favorable health conditions than Berlin. The following cities had a considerably higher death rate than Berlin, viz: Hamburg, Munich, Nuremberg, Karlsruhe, Frankfort-on-the-Main, Brunswick, Breslau, Halle, Dresden, Cologne, Stuttgart, Königsberg, as well as London, Paris, and Vienna. On the other hand, the following places showed more favorable figures than this city, namely: Leipzig, Hanover, Düsseldorf, Cassel, Kiel, Rixdorf (with 15.1), Charlottenburg (with 13.7), and Schöneberg, with the minimum, viz, 8.6. The infant mortality rate, amounting to 3.6 per year and thousand, was lower than the Munich, Hamburg, and Leipzig figures. Among the causes of death acute diseases of the respiratory organs showed a decrease, but influenza showed no variation. There were registered 109 deaths from phthisis pulmonalis, 89 deaths from acute diseases of the respiratory organs (including 12 from influenza), 35 deaths from cancer, 15 deaths from diphtheria, 14 deaths from scarlet fever, 8 deaths from measles. Finally, 3 persons died by violence.

### INDIA.

*Report from Bombay—Transactions of service—Mortality in Bombay—Plague and smallpox—Improvement in plague situation—Relation between temperature and epidemic plague.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Hume reports, March 18, as follows:

Transactions for the week ended March 18, 1905:

Sanitary certificate No. 81 (to accompany consular invoice No. 55 of 1905), issued on March 13 for 72 casks of goatskins, shipped to New York. The skins were soaked in brine and packed in water-tight casks.

Sanitary certificate No. 82 (to accompany consular invoice No. 56 of 1905), issued on March 16 for 2,000 baskets of onions, shipped to Manila, P. I.

Sanitary certificate No. 83 (to accompany consular invoice No. 57 of 1905), issued on March 16 for 5,000 baskets of onions, similarly consigned. All grown in cholera-free districts.

*Mortality in Bombay City.*

	Week ended—		Average of same week 1900-1904.
	Mar. 14, 1905.	Mar. 15, 1904.	
Plague deaths.....	683	904	923
Plague mortality per 1,000.....	45.89	60.57	61.85
Smallpox deaths.....	172	27	68
Cholera deaths.....	0	39	11
Total deaths.....	1,565	1,491	1,993
Total mortality per 1,000.....	104.87	99.91	131.99
Deaths from measles.....	22	11	36
Deaths from enteric fever.....	4	3	1
Deaths from malarial fever.....	51	53	177

It is a remarkable fact that with the slight rise in temperature which has occurred during the past week there has been great improvement in the health of the city. At the beginning of March the minimum temperature was about 68° F., following after a long spell of weather with the figure below 60°, which was unusually cold for Bombay. The minimum during the past few days has run up to 73°, with a maximum over 84°. As a result there has been a remarkable improvement in health conditions. Within the week the plague mortality dropped from 860 to 683, representing nearly 20 per cent in 7 days. The phenomenon of the relation of temperature to the intensity of the plague epidemic has been closely noted in previous years, but improvement has never before followed so closely on the first indication of warm weather. It is generally believed that the improved condition which arises on the reappearance of the hot weather is due wholly to the fact that the people leave their houses and sleep in the open, and that there is less crowding in insanitary buildings.

There is doubtless ground for this theory, but it does not seem possible that it can account for the entire phenomenon. Some of the worst phases of plague epidemic in the city have occurred at temperatures as high as and higher than those now recorded. The fact remains that there is an immediate response in the increased or decreased activity of plague as the temperature moves up or down. Possibly a close watch on the habits of the people in certain sections of the city might help to unravel the mystery. In some crowded sections there has been a drop; elsewhere a rise or stationary figure during the week. If it be true that, as heretofore, the height of the epidemic lasts but 10 weeks, then Bombay should soon be free from plague.

*Report from Calcutta—Inspection and fumigation of vessel—Cholera and plague mortality.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Eakins reports, March 16, as follows:

During the week ended March 11, 1905, bill of health was issued to the steamship *Liebenfels*, bound for Boston and New York, with a total crew of 56. The usual precautions were taken, holds fumigated, rat guards placed on wharf lines, and Lascars' effects disinfected.

During the week ended March 11, 1905, there were 32 deaths from cholera and 315 deaths from plague in Calcutta.

In Bengal during the week ended March 4, 1905, there were 6,878 cases and 5,827 deaths from plague.

In India during the same week there were 39,357 cases and 34,139 deaths.